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NATIONAL  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
AND  
INFORMATION SYSTEMS  
SECURITY  
COMMITTEE

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

**NTISSC-049-85**

**Date: 26 September 1985**

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS, NATIONAL  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY COMMITTEE**

**SUBJECT: Minutes of the 28 August 1985 Meeting of the NTISSC**

(U) This memorandum forwards the minutes of the fourth meeting of the NTISSC. If no written corrections/changes to these minutes are received in the Secretariat by 4 October, they will stand as written.

[Redacted Signature Box]

**Executive Secretary**

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a/s**

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**Fourth Meeting of the NTISSC****28 August 1985**

(U) The fourth meeting of the NTISSC was held on Wednesday, 28 August 1985, at the Department of State, Washington, D.C. With the exception of the FCC and DCA observers, all other agency and department members and observers were present.

(U) Prior to addressing the agenda topics, the Chairman expressed his appreciation to the Department of State representative for hosting this meeting of the Committee.

**Agenda Item I - Approval of 10 May NTISSC Meeting Minutes (U)**

1. (U) Members and observers had been notified prior to the 28 August meeting of two pen-and-ink changes to be made to the 10 May minutes. The Chairman reiterated these changes:

- a. Page one, second line of paragraph 2 --  
"NSC" vice "NCS", and
- b. Page three, first line of the first paragraph --  
"...Sensitive Information" vice  
"...Exclusive Information".

2. (U) Also provided to the Committee was the memorandum received from the NASA representative regarding the omission of his comments on NTISSP-1, "National Policy on Application of Communications Security to U.S. Civil and Commercial Space Systems". The Chairman noted these comments had not been included in the 10 May minutes, and recommended their attachment to complete the record. In referencing the fourth paragraph of the NASA memorandum, the Chairman expressed concern at NASA's apparent misunderstanding regarding the application of NTISSP-1, and provided the following clarification:

a. It is policy to protect the government classified and government or government contractor national security-related information transmitted over satellite circuits (as stated in para. 1, Section I, "Policy").

b. The policy to protect the command/control link of civil space systems used by government or government contractors for telecommunications is independent of the classification. The command/control link policy applies to unclassified as well as government classified and government or government contractor national security related information (as stated in para. 2, Section I, "Policy").

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c. Paragraph 3 deals with unclassified missions. Classified missions come under the purview of Section IV, "Heads of Departments", paragraph 6.

The Committee unanimously approved the 10 May minutes, to include the two pen-and-ink changes and the comments provided in the NASA representative's memorandum.

Agenda Item II - Status of Actions (U)

(U) A status of actions was provided by the Executive Secretary as follows:

1. NTISS Directive No. 901, "NTISS Issuance System" - Submitted to the Committee on 6 August 1985 for final comment.
2. NTISS Instruction 4002, "Classification Guide for COMSEC Information" - Submitted to the Committee on 21 August 1985 for final comment.
3. Draft NTISSI, "Guidelines for the Conduct of COMSEC Monitoring Activity" - continuing coordination.
4. Draft NTISSI, "Control of Top Secret COMSEC Keying Material" - submitted to the Committee for comment on 17 July 1985; response due date is 16 September.
5. Equipment release request (NTISSC-033-85) - votes were due on 23 August 1985.
6. Equipment release request (NTISSC-038-85) - votes were due on 6 September 1985.
7. Executive Branch recommendations concerning the national security and privacy issues related to bypass - members were advised that they would receive the subject recommendation for comment, and informed that this recommendation had been approved by the NCS Council of Representatives. Submission for formal approval by the Committee of Principals will take place in September, and NTISSC members were urged to give this item their immediate attention upon receipt.

(C) Following the report on the status of actions, the NSA representative announced his intention to submit to the National Manager for signature an NTISS Advisory Memorandum addressing the release of communications security equipment, material or information to a foreign enterprise, and that an NTISS Instruction on this subject would be submitted later to the

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Committee for coordination. The NSA representative explained the immediate need for this memorandum sighting several recent acquisitions by foreign owned firms of U.S. firms which held active classified government contracts involving classified COMSEC material. The NSA representative asked if any Committee member objected to the submission of the memorandum to the National Manager. No objection was noted.

(U) The Treasury representative raised the issue of the NSA Request for Waiver Authority to NCSC-2 (serial NTISSC-035-85). This request for waiver was viewed by the Department of Treasury as being entirely too relaxed. At the conclusion of discussion on this subject, the NSA representative indicated that the request for waiver authority to NCSC-2 would be withdrawn.

(U) Requests for releases of COMSEC equipments to foreign governments was addressed by the Transportation representative; specifically he questioned the necessity for vote approvals by the civil departments and agencies, stating that such requests should more appropriately be directed to the communities of interest for evaluation and analysis. The Chairman suggested that department and agency representatives who preferred not to be inundated with such requests might be removed from distribution upon notification to the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary indicated this could be done, provided notification to the Secretariat was in written form.

Agenda Item VII - "The Selling of Security -- Need for Positive Press on NSDD-145" (U)

(U) (This agenda item was moved forward to facilitate availability of the speaker.) The NSC representative spoke of NSDD-145, and the importance of being able to gather support in the congress, the media and in public opinion against hostile threats. He continued by saying the White House perceived telecommunications and information systems security as having a national political impact which would require support at the national level. There exists, however, a perception problem with regard to exactly what NSDD-145 is. A meeting of cabinet level officials within government to discuss telecommunications and information systems security is still envisioned, but the need to define details and to design an approach must first be resolved. This should become clearer with the forwarding of the Annual Assessment to the Steering Group. Support for NSDD-145 at the national level was again referred to, in the form of a speech by the Vice President. Committee members were encouraged to make their public affairs officers aware of the effort to promote NSDD-145 and the NSC representative further stated it would be helpful if this subject were included in speeches made by the various department and agency seniors. He said that the White House Press Office would coordinate this effort with the other

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agency and department public affairs offices. He concluded by emphasizing the 145 document is complete in its unclassified version and that the thrust of this document is something that could and should be made known.

(U) On the subject of fair share funding, the Chairman queried the OMB representative as to whether any progress had been made in designing a funding mechanism through which communications security costs could be shared. It was the belief of many of the Committee members that there must be an approved guidance in the budget process. It was the Chairman's belief that, as this was a policy issue, the problem of funding should be addressed not to the OMB representative to NTISSC, but rather the Director of OMB. He suggested this request could be made in the form of a letter, with a copy provided to the NSC for the record. The suspense date for responding to this letter would be prior to the meeting of the Steering Group in the October timeframe. A motion was made by the Army representative that such a letter be prepared by the Chairman, and with the exception of the OMB representative, all Committee members were in full agreement with this motion.

Agenda Item III - Status Reports on NTISSC Subcommittees/  
Working Groups (U)

1. (U) The Chairman of the Subcommittee for Automated Information Systems Security (SAISS) reported that since his last report at the 10 May meeting of the NTISSC, the SAISS had met twice. As a result of these two meetings the Subcommittee had voted upon and passed their Statement of Resolve and the Advisory Memorandum on the Orange Book, both of which had been forwarded to the Chairman, NTISSC, for further action. SAISS Working Group No. 1 had conducted three meetings and held 12 interview sessions. These interview sessions, upon which the SAISS input to the next annual assessment will be based, have been most helpful in that they have made the participants take a serious look at automated information systems security within their departments and agencies. He went on to say no surprises had resulted from these interviews and that the Subcommittee's input to the 1985 annual assessment was to be completed by the end of January. Working Groups 3 and 4 had been actively working on, among other policy proposals, glossaries and standards, the definition of "sensitive unclassified national security-related" information. The defining of the sensitive unclassified term was proving to be most difficult, but it was intended that the Subcommittee vote on the approved definition in September.

2. A status report on the Subcommittee on Telecommunications Security was provided by the Executive Secretary, NTISSC. He stated that a chairman for the STS has yet to be identified but

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it was hoped to have this vacancy filled soon. Prior to the departure of the STS Chairman in June, the STS proposed policy on sensitive information had been forwarded to the Chairman, SAISS, for review and comment. Upon completion of review/comment, the final version of this proposed policy will require coordination of both Subcommittees.

Agenda Item IV - Annual Evaluation Report (U)

(U) Copies of the "Annual Report - Status of Telecommunications and Automated Information Systems Security in the United States Government, 1984 - 1985" were provided to the Committee members at this meeting. The Chairman stated the report had been modified to incorporate the comments of the members. In his review of this version of the report, the Chairman indicated only one area with which he did not agree - page 20, paragraph D.1, last two words of the first sentence "with impunity". The Committee discussed the use of alternate phrasing, and in the end decided to eliminate the words "with impunity" from the sentence altogether. The Chairman requested Committee members review the report and promptly provide any further comments to either himself or the Executive Secretary, for it was his intent to forward this document to the Steering Group as quickly as possible.

Agenda Item V - Counterfeit Access Device and Computer Fraud and Abuse Act of 1984 (U)

(U) A briefing on the "Counterfeit Access Device and Computer Fraud and Abuse Act of 1984" was presented to the Committee by Mr. Joseph Whitmire of the DoD Computer Security Center (Phone: 859-6358). Copies of the vugraphs included in Mr. Whitmire's briefing are available upon request from the Secretariat.

Agenda Item VI - NCSC-7, Noncompliance with Existing Policy (U)

(U) The Committee was informed by the Chairman, of the noncompliance with the NCSC-7 policy by the Department of Commerce. This issue had been brought to his attention by Mr. T. K. Jones, Deputy Under Secretary, Strategic and Theater Nuclear Forces. The Chairman stated it was his understanding that Commerce had since indicated its willingness to comply with NCSC-7, and that a letter to this effect would be forwarded to the Committee. The Commerce representative acknowledged that the Commerce Department had agreed in principle to comply, and it was also his understanding that such a letter was being prepared, but for forwarding to Defense, as opposed to the Committee. The Chairman responded by stating the letter from Department of Commerce would be forwarded to the Committee (NTISSC), who in turn would forward it to Defense, to which the Commerce representative agreed. NASA's representative offered to assist Commerce in the

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preparation of this correspondence, after which the Chairman directed that Commerce would coordinate the response with NASA, prior to submission to the Committee.

(U) Having completed discussion of the listed agenda topics the Chairman opened the remainder of the meeting to discussion of new business.

(U) The FBI representative mentioned the privacy act and suggested privacy and confidentiality as something the Committee might wish to consider working into future Committee charters, policies, etc. The FBI representative stated that he would work "off-line" in preparing an input to the Executive Secretary reaffirming privacy and confidentiality inclusion in a sensitive information policy.

(U) Reference was made to the meeting of the Steering Group by the Department of State representative. Specifically he questioned whether the NTISSC members would receive advance notification of and information relating to this meeting. The Attorney General's representative suggested the Committee members be provided with guidance and briefings, to allow for consistency in preparing the Steering Group members for their meeting. The Chairman replied that advance notification, information and guidance would be made available. The GSA representative queried whether a firm date had been set for this meeting of the Steering Group, to which the Chairman stated the meeting was planned for the October timeframe.

(U) This meeting was concluded with a reminder from the Chairman that the next scheduled meeting of the NTISSC would be held on 8 November 1985.